

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 08626 250906Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----250909Z 035044 /21

O P 250859Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4308  
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

S E C R E T LONDON 08626

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PARM, TECH, IN, UK  
SUBJECT: NON-PROLIFERATION: INDIA

1. AS BRITISH HAD SUGGESTED, PM DIRECTOR GELB HAD DISCUSSION ON NON-PROLIFERATION AND INDIA WITH AUS PATRICK MOBERLY AND JOHN THOMSON, UK HIGH COMMISSIONER IN NEW DELHI, ON FRINGES OF US-UK INDIAN OCEAN TALKS. THE BRITISH MESSAGE WAS THAT THE US.BECAUSE OF ITS LEVER OF FUEL SUPPLY TO INDIA, HAD AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE INDIAN NUCLEAR POLICY IN A CONSTRUCTIVE DIRECTION. THOMSON SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THE INDIANS HAD PROBABLY ALREADY MADE A DECISION NOT TO SIGN THE NPT, BUT HAD REACHED NO PRECISE CONCLUSIONS ON PNES, THE POSSIBILITY OF JOINING THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIER CLUB, OR ON FULL FUEL CYCLE SAFEGUARDS.

2. IN THOMSON'S VIEW, THE CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATION IN INDIA HAD BROUGHT TO OFFICE A GOVERNMENT MUCH MORE WILLING TO GO THE WAY WE WOULD LIKE. HE SAID THERE WAS NOW AN OPEN MIND WHICH HAD SIMPLY NOT EXISTED BEFORE IN NEW DELHI ON MANY NON-PROLIFERATION ISSUES. NONETHELESS, THE GOI WOULD MOVE RAPIDLY TOWARD DECISIONS ON THE CENTRAL NUCLEAR QUESTIONS AND MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON US-SECRET

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INDIAN NEGOTIATIONS ON THESE MATTERS. MOBERLY ADDED THAT IF INDIAN GOVERNMENT WAS LEFT TO WORK OUT THESE PROBLEMS FOR ITSELF, THERE WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE MUCH CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS INDIAN POSITIONS.

3. GELB, IN RESPONDING BRIEFLY, SUGGESTED THAT BRITISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON CALL ON JOE NYE TO RECEIVE LATEST

US VIEWS ON US NUCLEAR FUEL SUPPLIES TO INDIA AND ON  
BROADER ISSUE OF FUTURE INDIAN NUCLEAR POLICY. EMPHASIZ-  
ING THAT NO WASHINGTON DECISION HAD BEEN MADE ON THESE  
MATTERS, GELB DESCRIBED THE DILEMMA THAT IS NOW FACING  
US. CONDITIONING INTERIM SHIPMENT UPON GOI AGREEMENT  
TO ADDITIONAL NON-PROLIFERATION CONSTRAINTS MAY BE  
UNACCEPTABLE TO NEW GOVERNMENT AND DESTROY POSSIBILITIES  
FOR NEGOTIATED SOLUTIONS AT OUTSET. BUT SHIPMENT WITH-  
OUT ADDITIONAL ASSURANCES COULD BE SEEN AS INCON-  
SISTENT WITH OVERALL US POLICY AND HARDEN ATTITUDES IN  
CONGRESS, ESPECIALLY REGARDING NEW LEGISLATION. (BRITISH  
ARE LIKELY TO QUERY FURTHER CONCERNING EFFECT OF  
POSSIBLE NEW LEGISLATION ON US NUCLEAR RELATIONSHIP WITH  
INDIA.) GELB CONCLUDED THAT HE WOULD FORWARD UK IM-  
PRESSIONS TO WASHINGTON AND REPEATED HE WAS SURE NYE  
WOULD WELCOME EXCHANGE WITH BRITISH EMBASSY ON THIS  
SUBJECT.

MILLER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**TAGS:** PARM, TECH, IN, UK, (THOMSON, JOHN), (MOBERLY, AUS PATRICK), (GLEB, JOHN V)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009